

## RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

## MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 11 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO LYNN  
WESTMORELAND

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, we are reaching that time of year when some of our colleagues will retire, some may be retired without wanting to be retired, and we will have new colleagues coming to the Senate and the House next year. I wish to pause for a moment and pay tribute to a great Georgian who will be retiring at the end of December and who has served our State for six terms in the U.S. House of Representatives—Mr. LYNN WESTMORELAND.

LYNN WESTMORELAND is a true entrepreneur, a native Georgian, a dedicated father, an outstanding businessman, and an unquestioned leader in the House of Representatives. As the ranking member of the Intelligence Committee in the House, he has been instrumental since 9/11, seeing to it that we remain safe in this country and that we have the information we need to make decisions we need to make to keep America safe.

I go back with LYNN WESTMORELAND a long time. I was a realtor in Georgia. I was in the brokerage business for 33 years. I dealt with homebuilders all the time, and one of them was LYNN WESTMORELAND.

Early in his career, he founded his own construction company, called L.A.W. Construction. He was an outstanding homebuilder in Fayette County, GA, and in our State. He built that business to be one of the best building and construction businesses in our State, and I am proud of what he accomplished.

He is also a guy who gives back. So LYNN decided to run for public office. He ran for the Georgia House of Representatives in Fayette County and won. He served 12 years in the Georgia House, rising to Republican leader in the Georgia House of Representatives. He was the leader at the time when, for the first time in history, the Georgia Republican Party went from the minority party to the majority party.

Wherever LYNN has been, he has been a leader and a fighter for what is right for our country and a dynamic leader for our State.

LYNN is married to a beautiful lady named Joan. They have three children and six grandchildren. She has been a great supporter of LYNN. They have been side by side since they first met at the age of 15 and began their 47-year marriage a few years later.

LYNN will be retiring, and we will miss him. We want to say thank you to LYNN for all he has done for Georgia when he was in our legislature and for what he has done for America now in the Congress of the United States. He will be sorely missed, but he will be appreciated always as a man of courage, a man of conviction, a man of commitment, and a true son of Georgia who excelled in the United States of America.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ROUNDS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRESCRIPTION OPIOID AND HEROIN  
EPIDEMIC AWARENESS  
WEEK

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, President Obama has issued a proclamation that this week is Prescription Opioid and Heroin Epidemic Awareness Week.

As the President explained, we pause to remember all those we have lost to opioid use disorder. We stand with the courageous individuals in recovery, and we recognize the importance of raising awareness of this epidemic. In recognition of Prescription Opioid and Heroin Epidemic Awareness Week, I am here with my colleagues to convey the urgency of responding to this crisis.

I want to start my remarks with a story I heard yesterday from a wonderful man named Patrick Byrne. I met yesterday with Patrick, as he was awarded the 2016 Education Award and Hero of the Year Award by the National Association of Letter Carriers. Patrick is from Lynn, MA. He lost his son James Byrne to heroin addiction. Here is his story.

James Byrne lived a fairly normal life in many ways. The son of Lynn, MA, Branch 7 president and Army vet Patrick Byrne, James had a good upbringing and strong family ties. He had a master's degree in computer science and made a good living in IT, but throughout his adult life, James had been hooked on heroin, a drug easily found on Lynn's post-industrial streets. James had periods of sobriety, but circumstances always seemed to steal them from him eventually.

James had enjoyed 7 months clean of drugs when an old friend and fellow ad-

dict called him one day in January of 2014 to beg James to find heroin for him. After first refusing, James gave in and bought some for his friend and apparently couldn't resist using it himself instead. The friend called James on the cell phone over and over as James lay dying of an overdose on the floor of his sister's house just down the street from his father's home. That is where Patrick found him.

After making his story public, Patrick heard from many other letter carriers about their own struggles with addiction, depression, or mental illness in their families. Patrick said: "I was shocked at how many people are dealing with similar problems." Inspired by Patrick's experiences and his efforts to educate fellow letter carriers and the broader public about the need to remove the stigma of addiction, the Postal Service Employee Assistance Program launched the Silent No More Initiative. The program is designed to help postal employees or their families break through the stigma and shame to share personal stories.

I thank Patrick for his leadership and service, and I pray for his family and for all the parents who are relying on hope and strength as they look for the support to achieve long-term recovery. None of us can be silent anymore in the face of this epidemic.

In order to get Patrick and all the families who are suffering the help they need when they need it, the Federal Government needs to invest in funding treatment and recovery programs. So far Congress has failed in this task.

In Massachusetts, I am hearing enormous frustration from people who don't feel adequate resources are being brought to bear on this epidemic of prescription drugs and heroin addiction. Countless individuals and families suffering with addiction cannot find a bed for detox. Then, when they are at their most vulnerable moment in recovery, they cannot find a place or provider for long-term treatment.

In May, Senator SHAHEEN from New Hampshire introduced legislation for \$600 million in emergency funding to combat this crisis. Then again in July, I and others argued on the floor for the need to invest \$1.1 billion into opioid treatment and recovery programs, but both times when Senator SHAHEEN made the case and others joined on the floor asking for additional funding, all of that was blocked so we could not in fact provide real funding that cities and States need to fight this epidemic.

We will not save lives and stop the scourge of addiction with just words and promises. We will not save lives with legislation that pays only lip service to providing treatment. So I stand here during Prescription Opioid and Heroin Epidemic Awareness Week to pledge that I will not stop fighting for funding.

In Boston, there is an area of our city called the Methadone Mile. It is approximately 1 square mile. It is the location of methadone clinics, safety net